

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed January 2, 2008. Claims 1-30 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-30 were rejected. In order to expedite prosecution of the Application, Applicant amends Claims 24-28 and 30. Thus, Claims 1-30 remain pending in the Application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

In the Office Action, the following actions were taken or matters were raised:

SUMMARY OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview held between the Examiner and Applicant's representative, Hope C. Shimabuku, on February 12, 2008. The section 101 and 112 rejections were discussed.

SECTION 101 REJECTION

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 USC §101 because the Examiner asserts that Claim 24 fails to produce a tangible result and only recites the intended use in the claim language. Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that "filtering the plurality of network nodes" to "target" a subset for fault monitoring is a tangible result. Nonetheless, to place the Application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal, Applicant has amended Claim 24 to recite the network nodes are filtered to "determine" a subset for fault monitoring. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 24 is in allowable form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 24 be withdrawn.

SECTION 112 REJECTIONS

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nonetheless, to place the Application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal, Applicant amends Claim 24 to recite "accessing a collection policy specifying criteria for collecting data from a plurality of network nodes" and "filtering the plurality of network nodes to

determine a subset of the plurality of network nodes for fault monitoring based on the collection policy." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 24 be withdrawn.

SECTION 102 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-9 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0008727 issued to See et al. (hereinafter "*See*"). Claims 10, 11 and 15-19 were rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,302,478 issued to Conrad (hereinafter "*Conrad*"). Claims 24-30 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,343,320 issued to Fairchild et al. (hereinafter "*Fairchild*"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. However, Applicant filed a notice of appeal on February 18, 2008. Therefore, these rejections remain issues to be addressed at appeal.

SECTION 103 REJECTIONS

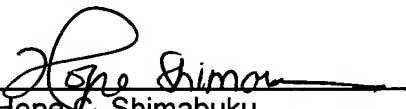
Claim 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Conrad* and *Fairchild*. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, Applicant filed a notice of appeal on February 18, 2008. Therefore, this rejection remains issues to be addressed at appeal.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for appeal. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action by the Examiner.

No fee is believed due with this Response. If, however, Applicant has overlooked the need for any fee due with this Response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this Response to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 of Hewlett-Packard Company.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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